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**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**INDIANAPOLIS**

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

Date: September 6, 2001

To: Dan Chesterton  
Site Investigation

Thru: Karyl Schmidt *KS 9-6-1*

From: Sarah Finley *SF 9-6-01*  
Geological Services

Subject: Work Plan  
Beck's Lake  
South Bend, ~~St. Joseph County~~  
Site # IND 980904379

As you requested, I have evaluated the above document submitted by IDEM Site Investigation, dated August 25, 2001. I have the following comments:

**SITE REVIEW**

This site is a former industrial dump that was converted to a city park. A lake was dug in the dump site. Residents around the area are concerned with possible contamination from the lake due to fishing and flooding. IDEM has proposed a work plan to sample the soils, sediments, and surface water around the site.

**COMMENTS**

The specifications outlined in the work plan are acceptable. However, modifications may need to be made to the sampling plan based on site specific information.

The map does not locate the site of the dump on the property. If the dump location was located around the lake and the man-made hill, then the sample locations are appropriate. If the dump was at the other end of the property, then samples will also have to be taken there.

Information about the development of the park is needed to design an appropriate sampling plan. Particularly of interest is whether topsoil was added or removed from the areas of concern. If soil was added, then samples need to be taken from the original surface as well as current surface.

Also of interest is the design of Beck's Lake. Often in the South Bend area, ponds must be lined with clay to hold water. The investigators need to determine whether the pond is in direct contact with the groundwater, or is separated from it. This information will help determine the probability of contamination.

The work plan states that a "full scan" will be performed on the soil, sediment, and water samples. Further description of what will be tested is necessary. At a minimum, samples must be tested for VOCs, SVOCs, metals, PCBs, and asbestos.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The work plan should be adequate to determine the potential contamination. If the above mentioned historical information is available, the sampling locations must be modified to sample areas of likely contamination.

CC: Craig Pender, Chemistry Group A